



REMARKS

Claims 1-6 remain pending in this application and claims 7-16 are withdrawn. The prior amendment to page 7, paragraph 23, and claims 1 and 6-7 stand objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132 for introducing new matter. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

By this response, Applicants submit herewith a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.132 providing an evidentiary basis for Applicants' assertion that the amendments to the specification and claims did not introduce new matter. Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that claims 1-6 are allowable if the objection to new matter is overcome. Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance and request withdrawal of the objection to the claims and allowance of all pending claims.

The Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733 for any fees due in connection with the filing of this amendment.

If the Examiner should have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: May 11, 2004

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca P. Rokos", written over a horizontal line.

Rebecca P. Rokos

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